

Message Text

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SUBJECT: 19TH UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL - DROUGHT - STRICKEN
AREAS OF AFRICA - (ITEM 11)

REF: DP/88

1. GOVERNING COUNCIL EXPRESSED ON-GOING CONCERN DROUGHT
SITUATION IN AFRICA IN TERMS DISASTER-RELIEF ASPECTS
PLUS LONG-TERM CONSIDERATIONS. OPENING REMARKS BY
UNDP AFRICA BUREAU CHIEF, DOO KINGUE, POINTED TO
OVERRRINDING FACT OF CLIMATIC CHANGE WITH WORST YEARS
NOT YET OVER(I.E., NEW EMERGENCIES SOMALIA AND RWANDA).
HE STATED CONTINUING ACTION BY WORLD COMMUNITY ESSEN-
TIAL FOR RELIF ON ONE-HAND, AND FOR LONGER-TERM
EFFORTS IN THREE MAJOR AREAS: WATER MANAGEMENT, BASIC
INFRASTRUCTURE NETWORKS, AND INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOP-
MENT.

PRAISED DOO KINGUE REMARKS AND THE UNDP'S REPORT,
DP/88. FOUR DELEGATES (KUWAIT, BELGIUM, FRG AND
SWISS) CALLED REPORT "EXCELLENT." ALL NOTED COM-
PREHENSIVE NATURE OF REPORT, TIS DOCUMENTATION,
AND ITS SOUND PROPOSALS FOR SHORT, MEDIUM, AND LONG-
TERM ACTIVITIES AT VARIOUS LEVELS. REPORT MADE CASE
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FOR SIGNIFICANT UNDP COORDINATING ROLE. CHAP IV

(CONCLUSIONS) OF REPORT GENERALLY SUPPORTED, WITH PRINCIPAL RESERVATION BEING ON ESTABLISHMENT OF SAHEL RESEARCH INSTITUTE. (USG AND SIX OTHER MEMBERS--NORDIC SPOKESMEN, UK, JAPAN, FRG, SWISS, NETHERLANDS--GAVE SPECIFIC RESERVATIONS ON THIS).

2. FOLLOWING POINTS REITERATED MOST SPEAKERS:

- A) PROBLEM IS WORLD-WIDE DEMANDING GLOBAL APPROACH WITH OVERALL COORDINATING ROLE BY UNDP. CLISS AND UN-SAHEL OFFICE ALSO NEEDED AND INVOLVED IN COORDINATION.
 - B) PROBLEM MORE THAN DROUGHT-RELIEF: AS IT IS LONG-TERM IN NATURE INVOLVING BOTH ECONOMIC AND SOCIA-POLITICAL FACTORS. ONLY COMPREHENSIVE MEDIUM AND LONGER-TERM ACTIVITIES CAREFULLY COORDINATED WILL SUFFICE. SUDAN AND SWISS SPECIFICALLY CITED NEED HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT.
 - C) NEVERTHELESS, DROUGHT-RELIEF MUST ALSO CONTINUE. INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS AND WORLD-COMMUNITY NEED TO MORE EFFECTIVELY GEAR-UP TO HANDLE DISASTERS.
 - D) UNDERLYING CHANGES IN CLIMATE ARE CONTROLLING, DIFFICULT TO FORECAST, AND CAN RECUR. NEVERTHELESS, EFFECTIVE MEDIUM AND LONGER-TERM MEASURES AND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES CAN BE DESIGNED AND MOUNTED TO ALLEVIATE SITUATIONS AND SUPPORT RECOVERY. SITUATION NOT ALL BLACK. NOT ONLY IS IT POSSIBLE BETTER UTILIZE EXISTING WATER RESOURCES, BUT TO BROADEN RESOURCES BASE THROUGH NATURAL RESURCES EXPLORATION THIS LATTER POINT STRESSED BY KUWAIT AND JAPAN, CITING UNDP PLEDGING REVOLVING FUND FOR NATURAL RESOURCES.
 - E) EIGHT MEMBERS (NORDICS, UK, JAPAN, FRG, SWISS, NETHERLANDS, BELGIUM AND USA) WARNED AGAINST DANGER PROLIFERATION OF INSTITUTIONS AND IMPORTANCE MAKE USE EXISTING INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITIES.
- WARNINGS WERE IN CONTEXT RESERVATIONS ON PROPOSED SAHEL RESEARCH INSTITUTE (ABOVE).
- F) NINE MEMBERS CITED OWN BILATERAL EFFORTS, IN ADDITION UN SUPPORT.

ONE (BRAZIL) FELT TCDC PROJECTS COULD BE APPLIED TO THIS AREA.

G) IMPORTANCE RESEARCH GENERALLY RECOGNIZED. SEVEN MEMBERS (NORDICS, BELGIUM, USA, SWISS, NETHERLANDS, DAHOMEY, BULGARIA, BROUGHT THIS OUT IN THEIR REMARKS.

H) USG JOINED IN GENERAL SUPPORT DOO KINGUE OPENING COMMENTS AND UNCLASSIFIED

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FOR DP/88. USG ASSOCIATED WITH UK RE PROLIFERATION OF NEW INSTI-TUTIONS, CITING PROPOSED SAHEL RESEARCH INSTITUTE AS EXAMPLE. ON OTHER HAND, USG BROUGHT OUT IMPORTANCE OF RESEARCH ON SEVERAL FRONTS, NOTING SECY KISSINGER'S INITIATIVES THIS POINT. US DELEGATION NOTED USG SUPPORT SENGAL RIVER BASIN AND LAKE CHAD DEVELOPMENT; FOR HUDROLOGICAL AND METEROLOGICAL INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND SPECIFICALLY HYDROLOGICAL INSTITUTE FOR SAHEL; ERTS PROGRAM (WHICH DAHOMEY SUBSEQUENTLY

ENDORSED) ALSO NOTED. USE OF CONSULTATIVE GROUP ON INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH INSTITUTES AS COORDINATING MECHANISM WAS STRESSED BY US DELEGATION. DELEGATION NOTED OVER HALF CONSIDERABLE USG INPUTS INTO SAHEL REPRESENTED MEDIUM AND LONGER TERM ACTIVITIES. I) IN CONCLUDING REMARKS, DOO KINGUE DEFENDED UTILITY OF PROPOSED SAHEL RESEARCH INSTITUTE, INDICATING IT HAD BEEN ENDORSED BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY; HE STATED CONSULTATIONS UNDERWAY SETTING UP PROPOSED ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ARID AND SEMI-ARID ZONES. IMPORTANCE OF REGIONAL AND GLOBAL RESEARCH EFFORTS STRESSED, WITH SPECIFIC ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF EFFORTS AND SUPPORT IN THIS AREA BY BELGIUM, BRAZIL, BULGARIA AND USA.

3. CONCLUSION

A) EVIDENT FROM UNDP AND UNDP GC TREATMENT THIS ITEM THAT GC MEMBERS ARE CONCERNED AND, ON BASIS SOLID DOCUMENT DP/88 PRODUCED BY UNDP, ARE ALSO WELL INFORMED AND EQUIPPED WITH REASONABLY GOOD MASTER PLAN GLOBAL STRATEGY AND APPROACHES. DISCUSSIONS BROUGHT OUT IMPORTANCE COORDINATION THIS COMPLEX BUSINESS WHICH INVOLVED UN ORGAN S, SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, UNDP BILATERAL DONORS, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES. UNDP CITED UNIQUELY EQUIPPED PROVIDE ESSENTIAL OVERALL COORDINATION, PARTICULARLY AS TREND IS TOWARDS MEDIUM AND LONGER-TERM DEVELOPMENTAL EFFORTS AND INTENSIFIED RESEARCH LOOKING TO TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY ON A NUMBER OF FRONTS IN ADDITION CLIMATOLOGY AND HYDROLOGY (E.G. RURAL DEVELOPMENT, RANGE AND WATER MANAGEMENT, CROPS AND BREEDING, SOCIO-POLITICAL FACTORS). B) US DELEGATION EMPHASIS ON RESEARCH AND ITS COORDINATION THRU EXISTING REGIONAL AND GLOBAL INSTITUTIONS WELL RECEIVED, WITH INTEREST ALSO DEMONSTRATED IN US INITIATIVES SUCH AREAS AS ERTS AND HYDROLOGY. C) UNDERLYING DEVELOPMENTAL ORIENTATION DURING DISCUSSION, IT WAS EVIDENT, HOWEVER, MEMBERS AWARE OVERRIDING PRESENCE UNCLASSIFIED

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CLIMATIC CHANGES WHICH OFTEN NOT AMENABLE DEVELOPMENTAL STRATEGIES, AND FOR WHICH WORLD COMMUNITY MUST MORE EFFECTIVELY GEAR-UP GLOBAL CAPACITIES BOTH TO FORECAST AND TO MOBILIZE EMERGENCY RELIEF MEASURES.

4. TEXT OF DRAFT DECISION FOLLOWS:

QUOTE

THE GOVERNING COUNCIL,
RECALLING THE DECISION TAKEN AT ITS SEVENTEENTH SESSION,
HAVING EXAMINED THE ACTIVITIES REPORT ON THE DROUGHT-STRICKEN REGIONS AND ADJACENT REGIONS OF AFRICA SUBMITTED BY THE ADMINISTRATOR (DP/88) AND BEARING IN MIND THE COMMENTS MADE BY THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

1. CONGRATULATES THE ADMINISTRATOR AND THE OTHER ORGANS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM FOR THE MEASURES THAT THEY HAVE TAKEN

IN ORDER TO COMBAT THE EFFECTS OF THE DROUGHT,
2. TAKES NOTE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT (DP/88)
AND APPROVES ITS CONCLUSIONS, PARTICULARLY THOSE CONCERNING THE ROLE
OF UNDP IN THE PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MEDIUM-TERM
AND LONG-TERM PROGRAMMES;
3. REQUESTS THE ADMINISTRATION OF UNDP AS WELL AS THE OTHER ORGANS
OF
THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM TO FURTHER EXPAND THEIR ACTION
IN THE FIELD OF EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO THE DROUGHT-STICKEN
COUNTRIES;
4. INVITES THE ADMINISTRATOR TO CO-OPERATE CLOSELY WITH
THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE COUNTRIES CONCERNED IN THE PREPARATION AND
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MEDIUM-TERM AND LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
S
FOR A PERMANENT OVER-ALL STRATEGY DESIGNED
TO RESTORE AND REHABILITATE THE ECONOMIES OF THOSE
COUNTRIES;
5. STRESSES THE IMPORTANCE OF EFFECTIVE CO-ORDINATION OF THE
ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS FAMILY IN COMBATTING THE
DROUGHT AND REQUESTS THE ADMINISTRATOR, BEARING IN MIND THE RELEVANT
RESOLUTIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THE ECONOMIC AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL, TO CO-OPERATE CLOSELY IN ORGANIZING THE
NECESSARY JOINT OVER-ALL PROGRAMMES AND TO FACILITATE
CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THE VARIOUS SOURCES OF AID AND THE COUNTRIES
AFFECTED;
6. REQUESTS THE ADMINISTRATOR TO INFORM THE COUNCIL AT
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ITS NEXT SESSION WITH REGARD TO THE EVOLUTION OF THE SITUATION
IN THE DROUGHT-STRICKEN REGION AND ADJACENT REGIONS OF
AFRICA AND THE MEASURES TAKEN FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE COUNTRIES
AFFECTED, PARTICULARLY THE COUNTRIES OF THE SAHEL, ETHIOPIA,
SOMALIA AND THE CAPE VERDE ISLANDS, BEARING IN MIND THE PROVISIONS
OF THIS DECISION.
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